

Message Text

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53

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

L-03 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-11

INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 IGA-02 AID-20 CIEP-02 TRSE-00

STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 FEA-02

INT-08 DRC-01 /183 W

----- 091880

P R 091448Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6380

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 1068

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN EFIN TD XL

SUBJECT: PM WILLIAMS COMMENTS ON BWIA AND CARICOM ISSUES

REF: POS 1042; STATE 93043 (BOTH NOTAL); POS 1064

1. IN A TELEVISED SPEECH MAY 8 LARGELY DEVOTED TO PETROLEUM POLICY MATERS (SEPTELS), PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS BRIEFLY ADDRESSED HIMSELF TO THE QUESTIONS OF REGIONAL AVIATION POLICY AND THE TRINIDADIAN COMMITMENT TO FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF ITS CARICOM PARTNERS (REFTELS).

2. REGARDING BWIA, WILLIAMS CAREFULLY LIMITED HIMSELF TO SAYING THAT PROBLEMS HAVE ARISEN WITH RESPECT TO CHARTERS, ADDITIONAL POINTS OF ENTRY INTO THE US, AND "INCREASING COMPETITION WITH FOREIGN AIRLINES." HE ANNOUNCED WITH OBVIOUS PLEASURE THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO THE GOTT REQUEST FOR
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HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSIONS OF THIS ENTIRE MATTER, AND SAID THAT HE IS

SENDING MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE ("ALSO IN CHARGE OF TOURISM") ERROL MAHABIR TO THE US FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS PROBABLY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

3. WITH REGARD TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ITS CARICOM PARTNERS, WILLIAMS CONFIRMED THAT THE GOTT HAS IN MIND TWO SEPARATE PROGRAMS, ONE A SPECIAL CDB FUND TO HELP THE LESSER DEVELOPED MEMBERS (POS 1064), AND THE OTHER TO PROVIDE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE TO BARBADOS, GUYANA AND JAMAICA. HE SAID THESE TWO PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE OF THE OPEC PROPOSAL TO AID ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND THE VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL FOR ASSISTANCE TO ENERGY-POOR LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES ANNOUNCED AT A RECENT IADB MEETING. THE PRIME MINISTER CONFIRMED THAT TRINIDAD WILL ENTER INTO BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH BARBADOS, GUYANA, AND JAMAICA IN RESPECT OF DECENTRALIZATION OF TRINIDAD'S FOREIGN RESERVES IN ORDER TO ASSIST IN RESOLUTION OF THEIR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS. MILLER

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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